

CHAPTER 622

(House Bill 1246)

AN ACT concerning

Physically Handicapped - State Building Code

FOR the purpose of providing for local enforcement of the State Building Code for the Handicapped; providing that the Maryland Society of Architects, rather than the State Board of Architects, assist in developing certain rules and regulations; requiring the Department of Economic and Community Development to carry out certain functions; and relating generally to the State Building Code for the Handicapped.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 41 - Governor - Executive and Administrative
Departments
Section 257JK
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1978 Replacement Volume and 1978 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Article 41 - Governor - Executive and Administrative
Departments

257JK.

The Department of Economic and Community Development, or the appropriate division thereof, shall promulgate and adopt a State building code for the purpose of developing rules and regulations for making buildings and facilities accessible and usable by the physically handicapped to the extent feasible. The rules and regulations shall be developed in conjunction with the Governor's Committee for Employment of the Handicapped, the Maryland Rehabilitation Association, and the [State Board of Architects] MARYLAND SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS.

ENFORCEMENT OF THE CODE SHALL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF LOCAL JURISDICTIONS OR ANY OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES HAVING AUTHORITY OVER BUILDINGS OR FACILITIES. HOWEVER, THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SHALL DECIDE QUESTIONS OF INTERPRETATION OF THE CODE AND AUTHORIZE ANY WAIVERS OR EXEMPTIONS UNDER THE CODE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1979.